

# Supervisor Romaine and Councilman Panico Oversee Demolition of Vacant Eyesore on Eleanor Avenue in Mastic

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**Farmingville, NY** – On October 15, Supervisor Ed Romaine and Councilman Dan Panico were present to oversee the demolition of a “zombie house” located at 119 Eleanor Avenue in Mastic. The house, vacant for many years, was a dangerous eyesore in the neighborhood and a public safety hazard, with a history of violations of New York State Building and Fire Prevention Codes as well as Town of Brookhaven Codes. The house has also been the site for squatters and alleged drug activity. This was the third Mastic house demolished by the Town in the last three weeks.

The demolition was unanimously approved by the Town Board at its August 27 Town Board meeting, where several residents spoke in support of the action. The house was demolished by the Town in accordance with Chapter 73 of the Town Code which provides a “fast track” to rid neighborhoods of unsafe structures. The cost of demolition and debris removal is the responsibility of the property owner. The Town places a lien on the property that is then placed on the tax bill. The County reimburses the Town and they collect the money from the property owner.

Supervisor Romaine said, “Our aggressive approach to eliminating zombie houses has improved the quality of life in neighborhoods across Brookhaven Town. There’s more to be done and I urge residents to report any vacant house that they believe is in violation of the Town Code and should be considered for demolition.”

Councilman Panico said, “This house is the third house that has been demolished in three weeks, part of Brookhaven Town's aggressive effort to rid neighborhoods of public nuisances and give our residents the quality of life that they deserve.”

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